THE WOMAN'S

DREADNOUGHT

Published by the WORKERS' SUFFRAGE FEDERATION

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HUMAN SUFFRAGE: THE IMMEDIATE PROSPECT

Get the Human Suffrage resolution signed by every organisation with which you are concerned!

This meeting calls on the Government to introduce not a Registration Bill but a Franchise Bill to give a vote to every woman and man over 21.

Copies of the Workers' Suffrage petition can be obtained from 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E. Get it signed by your workmates.

The following societies have passed the above resolution in addition to the list already published:—

Renfrew Trades and Labour Council; Dumbarton United Trades and Labour Council; The Scottish Paviors' Federal Union; Cambuslang I.L.P.; Edinburgh Trades Council; Kingston I.L.P. (Glasgow); Bathgate I.L.P.; National Assurance Agents, Southampton; N.A. Prudential Agents, Southampton; A.N.O. Bakers, Southampton; Operative Bricklayers, Southampton; Six Branches of Joiners, Southampton; Electrical Trades, Southampton; Four Branches A.S.E., Southampton; N.A. Furnishing Trades, Southampton; Litho Artists and Engravers, Southampton; Four Branches N.A.S. Painters and Decorators, Southampton; United Patternmakers, Southampton; N.O. Plumbers' Association, Southampton; N.U.R., Southampton; A.S. Railwaymen and Vehicle Workers, Southampton; British Seafarers' Union, Southampton; Two Shipwright Branches, Southampton; N.U. Shop Assistants, Southampton; Typographical Association, Southampton; A.S. Woodcutting Machinists, Southampton.

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The Executive Council of the Dockers' Union has carried the following resolution unanimously:—

"This Executive Council of the Dock Wharf and General Workers' Union pledges itself to support the women of the country in their efforts to obtain recognition as citizens, and calls upon the Government to include women as voters in any amendment or addition to the Registration Act."

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The *Daily Chronicle* says: "We must be content with what is moderate and non-committal, unless we are prepared to pass by agreement a Bill dealing with all three aspects of the voting problem in the most comprehensive way. Does anyone really think that even in war-time such an agreement could be obtained?"

It can be done if the supporters of Votes for All are prepared to press as hard for it as those who desire a service franchise are pressing.

The Liberal War Committee met after Mr. Asquith had outlined his Registration proposals and passed the following resolution:—

"That this Committee welcomes the declaration of the Government to introduce a Registration Bill without further delay, but reaffirms the view expressed in the Committee's resolution of May 24th last in favour of the enfranchisement of all men serving in H.M. Naval and Military Forces."

POWERFUL ONE-TIME ANTI DEMANDS HUMAN SUFFRAGE NOW.

Mr. Garvin in the *Sunday Observer* writes, in the course of his leading article, as follows:—

"Any attempt therefore to 'gerry-mander' the franchise on lines of party advantage would be manifestly futile. That being the case, the existence of an Administration which contains members of both whilom parties affords an unequalled opportunity to broaden the basis upon which government in this country rests. . . . We cannot then begin to overhaul the constitutional system and spend months, perhaps years, in haggling over the precise degree of worldly prosperity and house tenure which make a man a reliable citizen. We do not want to have to mend the legislative machine after hostilities. We shall require the machine to be in smooth running order by the end of the war. . . . Some of the questions which will arise are already being asked. It is very astonishing that the first of these should concern the right of sailors and soldiers to vote. As to that point we cannot easily understand how any thinking man can for one moment hazard objection. . . . That, however, is a passing issue, though it is one of the gravest importance. Of greater permanent importance is the question of the right of women to vote. They have earned it. We say so frankly. In the past we have opposed the claim on one ground, and one ground alone—namely, that women, by the fact of their sex, were debarred from bearing a share in national defence. We were wrong. . . . The State needs their aid, and they have proved their capacity to give it.

"The time has come to give a new meaning to Democracy; to make it a real thing, the true voice of the nation, and not of a part, more or less arbitrarily and often foolishly selected. Once for all, let us simplify the thing. Let the right to vote be given to every man and woman who has attained years of responsibility: let us say, five-and-twenty, for then they have arrived at an age to put away childish things. The nation, by its bearing in two years of war, has earned this right to be trusted with its own destinies. . . . One question remains to be discussed. It is one which, under certain circumstances, might become of first-class importance. When should an election be held? . . . If we have an election, it must be a real appeal to the people on a clear and definite issue, in which all those who have a moral right to participate shall take part."

FAIR DEALING WANTED

Mr. Massingham, in a letter to the *Daily Chronicle*, says:—

Sir,—I hope the *Daily Chronicle* will use its influence to save the Government from the great act of injustice and unwisdom it will commit if in the form of a Registration Bill, giving some facilities to existing soldier-voters, it adds a new element of men-voters without enfranchising women. We all know that Franchise Bills settle franchise questions for some years. Such problems cannot be reopened every Session or so. Parties are not prepared for continual readjustments of the suffrage. If we establish a substantially new suffrage now, the question will slumber again. And this we shall do if the Government are preparing to act in the sense of Mr. Law's hint of a reduction of the qualifying period to three months.

But this will be a cruel wrong to women, and a great offence to that large body of men who are converted to the suffrage. This House of Commons has always been a suffrage House of Commons. It could not come to a settlement because the Government gave it no help in that direction. But its general view was clear. It would never now tolerate a fresh postponement and evasion of the claim that it has always considered to be just.

Such a Bill therefore is not practical. But it would also be a piece of petty and perverse statesmanship. National service has been decreed for the period of the War. Without the women's contribution to that service

(Continued on Back Page, Col. 2.)

MEMORIAL AGAINST THE LLOYD GEORGE ORDER

The Workers' Suffrage Federation has sent the following letter and statement to the Prime Minister and the Minister of Munitions:—

Sir,—There is a widespread public feeling that the women who are going into industry to replace men should not be employed at a lower wage. There is also a very widespread desire that the level of women's wages should be raised generally, and it is felt that the practice of employing bodies of women in the engineering trade at rates lower than those paid to men, even if the women are not doing precisely the same work, is a very dangerous one, being unjust to women, and also tending to reduce the men's wages. The women who are able to claim the minimum rate of £1 a week form but a small proportion of the women in the engineering trade, and in any case it is felt that £1 a week minimum is too low in itself, and also is undercutting the men's rates. It is desired that all women in the engineering trade should be entitled to claim the same rates for the work they happen to be doing as would be paid for it if the operatives were men, and that no woman shall enter an engineering factory, however unskilled she may be, at a lower rate than that which is paid to the man who is a newcomer to the trade, and that as she gains in efficiency and performs more highly skilled work her rates of pay shall correspond with those paid to men doing similar work.

It is desired that the various regulations which have been established for safeguarding the workers' interest by generations of effort on the part of the men in the engineering trade shall also apply to the women, because it is known that otherwise the position of men will be weakened, and because it is realised that if separate conditions are set up for women, who, being newcomers, are as yet less generally organised, and are, moreover, without the political power which is an advantage to men Trade Unionists, the conditions which are established for women are certain to be inferior to those of men.

The rates which have been fixed by the Ministry of Munitions under Order 447 for women or girls engaged on munition work of a class which, prior to the War, was not recognised as men's work in districts where such work was customarily carried on, are open to various grave objections. They are in themselves too low; they are much lower than the rates paid to men in the trade. They apply to workers who, whilst not doing precisely the same work, are doing very similar work to that of men. The rates established by Order 447 are not minimum rates, but fixed wages, which cannot be raised. Under this Order the workers, as stated by Dr. Addison in the House of Commons on August 1st, in reply to Mr. Anderson, are deprived of the right to apply to the arbitrators under the Munitions Acts, 1915-16, to obtain higher wages. To withhold from the worker the power to obtain an increase of wages, especially at this time, when the cost of living is continually rising, is a most serious matter.

There are a number of other objections to the Order, including the fact that instead of providing that piece work, which entails a much higher degree of concentration and exertion on the part of the worker than time work, shall bring to the worker higher wages, the Order states that whereas time work shall be paid at the rate of 4½d. an hour, time rates for piece workers shall be only 4d. an hour. Piece rates are usually calculated so that they shall yield time and a half or time and a quarter. In these wages fixed by the Ministry of Munitions, no provision is made for paying extra for overtime, Sunday, or night work, or waiting time. Indeed, the conditions which have been established for women are such that no body of men could be found to submit to them, even were the wage very much higher than that which has been fixed for women.

Order 456, dealing with rates to be paid to girls under 18, doing work which is customarily done by men over 18, fixes time rates of 18s. a week for girls between 17 and 18, 16s. a week for girls between 16 and 17, and 14s. for girls under 16, and states that piece rates for girls between 17 and 18 are to be 10 per cent. less than those paid to men, girls between 16 and 17, 20 per cent. less, and girls under 16, 30 per cent. less. These are really monstrous proposals. Humanitarians would probably consider on the face of it that girls between 16 and 18 are not fitted to do the work customarily done by men over 18 years of age. The time rates fixed are low, but in the case of piece work it would naturally be supposed that the quantities turned out by these young girls would be smaller than the quantities turned out by men, and that without any reduction in rates the earnings would be considerably less. To employ these young girls on the work customarily done by men at a lower rate, is likely to have ill effects which will remain after the War, in reducing the rates of men, injuring the physique of the girls and tending to increase the employment of child labour.

In view of the foregoing facts, the following statement has been prepared.—Faithfully yours,

E. SYLVIA PANKHURST.

THE MEMORIAL

The undersigned protest against the low wage scale ranging from 2½d. and 3d. an hour for girls, to 4d. and 4½d. an hour for women, with ½d. an hour extra in danger zones, ordered by the Minister of Munitions for women and girl munition workers, and demand that these women shall be paid not less than 30s. a week or whatever may be the current day rates of the industry for men, also the same piece rates as those paid to men.

W. A. Appleton (Secretary General Federation Trade Unions); M. Arncliffe Sennett; Margaret Ashton (Manchester City Council); Hertha Ayrton, M.I.E.E.; G. Baillie Weaver; Eleanor Barton (Past President Women's Co-operative Guild); Arnold Bennett; Ruth Cavendish Bentinck; Clementina Black; Elizabeth M. Cadbury; George Dallas; M. De La Warr; C. Despard; F. Lewis Donaldson (Vicar of St. Mark's, Leicester); Barbara Drake; Harry Dubery (National Committee of Post Office Assistants); E. C. Fairchild; Isabella Ormston Ford; Katherine Bruce Glasier; Emily Hobhouse; Clemence Housman; Laurence Housman; Florence G. Jones (Hon. Sec. Forward Cymric Suffrage Union); George Lansbury; Emily Lutyens; Lillah McCarthy; M. Moore Ede, D.D. (Dean of Worcester); Emmeline Pethick Lawrence; Edith R. Mansell Moullin; Henry W. Nevinson; Harriet C. Newcomb; E. Sylvia Pankhurst; A. Maude Royden; Olive Schreiner; Evelyn Sharp; Robert Smillie; Philip Snowden, M.P.; H. M. Swanwick; Barbara Tchaykovsky, M.D.; Ben Tillett; Frances Evelyn Warwick; A. A. Watts; Ethel M. M. Williams.

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The writer of the *Manchester Guardian* "London Letter" announces that certain firms have already taken advantage of the Lloyd George Order to reduce the rates paid to women shell bag makers to 4d. an hour.

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At Ipswich Munitions Tribunal a man who had been in his present employment for 20 years was fined 10s. for bad time-keeping. He complained that at the back of his lathe was a large fire, protected by a strip of sheet iron and asbestos which retained the heat and made him ill on hot days.

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A woman employed on a capstan lathe, and earning 17s. a week, asked to be able to leave because her health was injured through working too long hours and at night.

HOURS AND THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Some time ago we were assured by the Health of Munition Workers Committee that we are mistaken in thinking that this Committee has not done much to secure proper hours and conditions. We asked, therefore, that the Committee would supply us with figures as to the number of workers employed, the number whose hours have been reduced since the creation of the Health Committee, and the number whose hours have been increased. The Committee now informs us that hours have been reduced in factories employing about 20,000 workers, and Sunday labour has been discontinued in 84 factories. We are not told by how much the hours have been reduced, and the figures as to increases are not furnished. Unfortunately we know that hours have been increased in many cases.

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At the National Shell Factory, Armley Road, Leeds, the women used to work on three shifts of 8 hours, but the Ministry of Munitions ordered a change, and they now work two shifts of 12 hours.

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At Barnbow, near Leeds, where the workers use the deadly T.N.T. and C.N.T., three shifts of 8 hours are now worked, but two long shifts have now been ordered.

What is that much-talked-of Health of Munition Workers' Committee doing?

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We have several times called the attention both of the Ministry of Munitions and the Health of Munition Workers' Committee to the long hours worked by the women engaged in the dangerous industry of shell filling at No. 11 Filling Factory, Abbey Wood. We now learn that the excuse given for this by the Ministry of Munitions is that, though the Filling Factory is a national munition factory, the establishment is managed by the King's Norton Metal Co., which has its own private factory next door. The Ministry of Munitions says: "It would, of course, be extremely difficult to have two factories each run by the same firm and each adjoining the other, yet varying in the number of hours worked a week." That is probably true, but two blacks do not make a white. Let the Ministry of Munitions set an example by reducing the hours and the private factory will follow suit.

We would point out that shell filling is a dangerous trade, and that exhausted workers are most likely to suffer from industrial poisoning.

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We are glad to report that the Ministry of Munitions has promised to inspect Messrs. Hooper's aircraft works at Chelsea with a view to improving the conditions of the workers employed there. We are also pleased to announce that at No. 11 Filling Factory, Abbey Wood, Mrs. Smith has been replaced as Welfare Supervisor by Miss Soulter, and that the searching of the girls and women by men is to be brought to her notice.

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At the Hope Manufacturing Co., Sheepscar, Leeds, women are paid 15s. a week and 1s. 6d. War Bonus, for making shell bags; 1d. is deducted for the cook, 1d. for infirmary, 3d. for health insurance, and now there will be 2½d. for unemployment insurance, and something for welfare! The hours are from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

A WOMAN CANNOT VOTE BECAUSE SHE CANNOT FIGHT

"Some woman risks her life for her country every time that a soldier is born into the world. She does picket duty over his cradle. For years she is his quartermaster, and gathers his rations. And when that boy grows to a man, shall he say to his mother, 'If you want to vote, you must first go and kill somebody'? It is a coward's argument!"—Lucy Stone, an American Suffragist pioneer.

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Can be obtained at the Bookstalls of Messrs. W. H. SMITH & SONS & Messrs. WILLING, and all Newsagents.

All business communications should be sent to the MANAGER, 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

Vol. III. No. 21 Sat., August 19th, 1916

Bravely and willingly we bear our share of the World's burdens. Why, then, deny us the right to Vote, which would dignify our labour and increase our Power of Service?

WHY NOT VOTES FOR ALL?

In making his statement on Registration and the Franchise, Mr. Asquith admitted that women are able to present an unanswerable claim for enfranchisement, by showing that they are working in the munition factories, taking the place of the men at the front, and acting as the servants of the State. He added:—

"What is more, and this is a point that makes a special appeal to me . . . . when the War comes to an end . . . . when the process of re-construction has to be set on foot, have not women a special claim to be heard on the many questions which will arise directly affecting their interests, and possibly meaning for them large displacements of labour? I cannot think that the House will deny that, and I say quite frankly, that I cannot deny their claim."

Women may greatly appreciate these words of Mr. Asquith, but we cannot fail to recognise that the Government's registration proposals are actually a denial of our claim, and are thrusting it aside at a time of most critical importance. Mr. Asquith proposes to create a new Register, to come into force by the 31st of May next. Before then, *The Times* says: "Great events may assuredly happen, questions affecting the future of the Empire and of mankind for ages and ages."

We women know this to be true, and we know that in the months before us, when the future of civilisation will be in the melting-pot, it is essential that the wives and mothers of the community shall be brought into the Franchise System.

It is obvious that the Government's present proposals fail to satisfy any section. The *Daily News* Editorial expresses regret that all soldiers and sailors are not to be enfranchised, and the Liberal War Committee has done the same. Mr. Churchill interrupted the Prime Minister's speech to ask whether the Bill will be so drawn as to enable Franchise Amendments to be moved. Mr. Will Thorne demanded "one gun, one vote." Sir Edward Carson clearly indicated that he will strive to get a clause to give votes to all soldiers and sailors over 18 years into the Bill.

The claim of every section that is pressing for enfranchisement could be met if the Government would take the just course of placing the Franchise on a human basis, by extending the vote to every adult man and woman. The question as to whether the qualifying age should be lowered to 18 is raised in an acute form by the fact that lads are conscribed into the Army and Navy at that age. Probably the best solution of the problem is to make the age of enlistment 21.

Sir Edward Carson told the House of Commons that women will be putting a bar to their own cause if they say "we will not allow the sailors and soldiers who are fighting for us to be enfranchised, because we cannot be considered at the same time."

But women do *not* say that, we ask for votes for all. If Sir Edward Carson can bring his "Ginger Group" along to that position, its members will form a substantial addition to the forces which support our cause. The obstructionists are those who would refuse justice to all. The agitation for a "Service" Franchise, which, of course, is of mushroom growth as compared with the women's claim, would be met like all other sectional demands by the establishment of complete Human Suffrage.

Sir Edward Carson is right in saying that the proposal outlined by Mr. Asquith, of tracing the men who were electors at the last General Election, and proving the claims of those who allege that they were voters under the University, Household, Ownership or Lodger Franchises, will entail "enormous" difficulties, and elaborate machinery will be required to carry it out. The *Manchester Guardian* admits the difficulties, but says:—

"With energy and goodwill no doubt the work can be done, if not perfectly, at least in the 'rough and ready' fashion to which Mr. Asquith alone aspires."

But why should the nation be put off with a mere makeshift?

The *Manchester Guardian* replies:—

"There is need also alike of simplification and of extension in the qualifications for the Franchise, above all in relation to women. But these are great and contentious matters."

It is not thus that the "Ginger Group" declares its belief in the Service Franchise. Something more vigorous in the way of advocacy is needed if Human Suffrage is to be won! Those who desire to secure it should cease to shrink from difficulties (in this case there seems to us a tendency to create them), and should come forward in definite support of the cause, casting aside the timid and tiresome phraseology of "if and when."

Apart from its golden merit of establishing a just Franchise basis, Adult Human Suffrage would sweep away much expensive and complicated procedure.

Under the New Zealand system, all adult men and women who are British subjects by birth or naturalisation, have lived twelve months in the Dominion, and have resided during the three months preceding registration in the district where they desire to vote, are placed on the electoral roll. No one may be enrolled for more than one district. The electoral roll is closed for printing on a date fixed by the Governor in Council in the year in which the election is held. Claims for enrolment received by the Registrar between the date of closing the roll and 6 p.m. on the date of issue of the writ for election, are entered on a supplementary roll; therefore, there is no reason for any qualified person to be excluded. Seamen and others, who expect to be absent from their districts during the election, may obtain permits to record their votes for their home district in any part of the Dominion. The electoral districts are arranged upon the basis of population, and are adjusted every five years.

Members of the British Parliament who are pressing for the creation of the present new electoral register are obviously preparing for a General Election, which will probably take place after the War, but which may come earlier if some great political crisis should arise before Peace is declared.

Whether the next election comes during or after the War, its result is bound to be momentous. To women who desire to see a fairer future for their children we say: Do you not want a share of what political power is possible to the rank and file in these days? Are you not yet determined to have a share in widening and extending that political power in throwing off the coercion that has been put upon the people during the War, and in hastening the coming of a new day?

If you want to have a citizen's full share in fighting for the future, work for the Vote now. The opportunity is here.

Mr. Asquith clearly stated that on the Second Reading of the Bill the Government would decide whether "it is desirable to make it into a Franchise Bill." The desirability will be measured by the determination of those who are clamouring for the franchise.

E. SYLVIA PANKHURST.

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At the Commission of Investigation into the Insurance Act, Mr. J. Haworth, of the Employers' Parliamentary Association, argued that married women could not be insurable on the same plane as other sections of the community. They were, as a class, broadly speaking, between regularly employed persons and casual labourers, and he was in favour of a separate scheme for them.

We trust that no attempt is to be made to reduce the sick benefit of married women. We would point out that married women are obliged to pay the same contributions as those who are unmarried, and if the rate of sickness is higher amongst them they are the more in need of help. In these days of "baby-saving campaigns" it is well to remember that if the mother is neglected the child must suffer. The Government must make itself responsible for the solvency of the mothers' insurance fund.

URGENT

Write to Mr. Asquith, Mr. Bonar Law, Mr. Lloyd George, Lord Robert Cecil, and your local Member of Parliament at once and ask for a vote for every adult woman and man.

A MISTAKEN MEMORIAL

A "Women's" Memorial to Mr. Hughes, the Prime Minister of Australia, "urging his immediate return to London that he may share in the management of the War as a member of the inner and supreme War Council of the Empire" has been sent out by Lady Templetown and Lady Leith of Fyvie.

The authors of this amazing document evidently appear to imagine that the poor tools who are asked to sign this memorial are too ignorant to know that Mr. Hughes is unable to force his way into the "inner and supreme War Council without so much as an invitation." An explanatory letter accompanying the memorial, states that to enter the War Council "is fundamentally his right by virtue of his Imperial Office as Prime Minister of Australia to have a seat in the War Council." But the ladies who have signed the letter must surely know that neither statute nor custom have yet conferred such a right upon the Prime Minister of Australia. Though there is much to be said for the view that because the peoples of the overseas dominions have been involved in the War they should have a voice in the conduct of the War and in the peace settlement, the argument applies with equal force to New Zealand, Canada, South Africa, and India. When it is decided that the overseas dominions shall have representation in the Imperial Government, this must be done in constitutional form by Act of the British Parliament and of the Parliaments of the Dominions. The Dominions must themselves choose who their representatives shall be in the Imperial Federation, if this is to be formed.

The propaganda of Mr. Hughes in this country was repudiated by large sections of Australian opinion, and though the Memorial assures Mr. Hughes that "in the Mother Country there is high and *universal appreciation*" of his activities, masses of people in this country consider that so far as the influence of Mr. Hughes has effected anything it has been harmful.

Mr. Hughes is credited by the Memorial with having played a leading part in framing the economic policy of the Paris Conference. We believe that the proposals of the Paris Conference are calculated to prolong and embitter the present international conflict, dangerous to the future world peace, and a retrograde step in the march of human evolution. When the War ends, when the guns are silenced and the bayonets sheathed, it would be both wrong and sad that the fires of hatred and anger should be kept burning, and that we should still regard as enemies those with whom we had made peace.

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A meeting was recently held in the great City Hall, Glasgow, in support of Tariff Reform. Sir Thomas MacKenzie, of New Zealand, and other prominent speakers from Australia and South Africa were present, also two professional singers, yet less than 150 people were present. The audience were told that in New Zealand a 40 lb. basket of fruit can be sent anywhere on the State-owned railways for 6d., and the empty basket can be returned without extra charge; also that all the New Zealand school-children are taken to and from school free of charge. These benefits seem to us to spring from the nationalisation of railways, not from Protection.

MOTHERS' DAY.

Dear Editor,—Mothers' Day! What a pity to try the impossible—to put Mothers on the same basis as "flags of all nations"—and to represent them as mostly desiring tickets for cinemas and 1s. teas, with a drive out on top of a 'bus for a great treat, a few peppermints thrown in perhaps—is really the very height and depth of mistaken philanthropy or desire for notoriety. What mothers want is their husbands and sons *intact*, as strong as God—and the opportunities of development have allowed them to be—ready to love and cherish them and take their share of the burden of life. How I hate this taking from us all our able-bodied, those to whom we have a *right* to look for help and love. And what is offered to those who are bereaved and cannot be comforted?—a few coins, certificates, buttons, badges, rubbish of all sorts. For those who return—crippled, insane, worse still, "nervous wrecks"—a beautiful hospital in which to live out their days, chocolates, cigarettes, parts of the alphabet sewn on their coats, visits from duchesses. What is the matter with the world? All sense of value seems lost. We want bread—behold, a stone!

I rejoice to see Glasgow has a Woman's Peace Crusade, and I am freshly disappointed in my sex—they are too meek and swallow everything that is imposed upon them as their duty. The men, I believe, would be thankful if we had the courage to make known in high places our scorn, detestation, and silent heartbreaks over their barbarism.—A CORRESPONDENT.

CONSCRIPTION OF CHILDREN.

The Derbyshire Education Committee, on a recommendation from the War Agricultural Committee, has decided that in any district under its jurisdiction, where there is not sufficient female labour, individual farmers may approach the head teacher of any elementary school with a view to releasing boys over 12 years of age from school on any day for harvest purposes, provided that the names of such boys have been previously placed on a list sanctioned by the school managers, and that payment of the wages be made to the lads through the managers.

The wages to be paid to the boys is to be left for local settlement, but it is expected that it will be about 1s. a day.

Mr. A. Errington seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

This is a highly important matter. The resolution appears to imply that the children may be sent to work for the farmers without the consent of their parents. What is to happen if the parents object? What redress are the parents to have if their children have been sent to work without their consent? It is bad enough that children shall be taken from school when their parents ask it, but this is industrial conscription of children.

PARLIAMENT AS WE SEE IT

SOLDIERS' PUNISHMENTS.

August 8th.—Mr. Morrell drew attention to the fact that an Army driver had been awarded 90 days field punishment for exceeding the speed limit. A part of this punishment was the strapping of the man to a waggon for two hours a day and the stoppage of his wife's allotment. Mr. Forster admitted the punishment was excessive, and said it would be remitted. This grievance was redressed through a Parliamentary question. How many are not?

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As a result of Mr. Bonar Law's use of a letter from a foreign margarine manufacturer, which was photographed in the Censor's office, to confound Lord H. Cavendish Bentinck, Mr. Ramsay Macdonald and others by insinuating that they were merely opposing the tax on palm kernels to forward a trade interest, Mr. King asked whether the military censorship is to be used to provide material for attacking their critics. Mr. Lloyd George replied: That the function of the War Office officials "is to send along to public Departments any information which comes into its possession by means of letters opened in this way."

No comment seems strong enough!

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Sir G. Toulmin drew attention to the case of a private who was gassed and granted a paltry pension of eighteen pence a day only after his death on February 5th. Although the Central Army Pensions Issue Office was communicated with at once, the widow has not yet received a pension. Mr. Forster feared there had been "some lack of co-ordination in this somewhat unusual case."

Our experience with the League of Rights for Soldiers' and Sailors' Wives and Relatives unfortunately tells us that there is nothing "unusual" in this case!

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Commander Wedgwood asked how many nerve-shaken soldiers are being discharged from the Army direct to pauper asylums? Mr. Forster ignored this point, and stated that the following three classes are certified: I. Cases of general paralysis of the insane; II. Chronic epileptics; III. Incurable cases, and cases where there is previous history of insanity.

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Mr. Hayes Fisher announced that "adequate pensions and generous pensions" have been granted to soldiers and sailors and their dependants. We dealt with these last week, and in our opinion the pensions are neither generous nor adequate. Mr. Fisher stated that the Chancellor of the Exchequer has at last agreed that £7,500,000 shall be granted to cover 250,000 deaths, and a further £1,000,000 for each additional 50,000 deaths. Mr. Hayes Fisher said that with regard to the disabled the Statutory Committee consider that its duty is to see things done rather than do them itself. The blind are, therefore, to go to Sir Arthur Pearson at St. Dunstan's, and the paralysed to the Star and Garter.

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Mr. Hogge declared that the pensions scheme is "hedged about by barbed wire entanglements" and "harsh rules." He complained that the applicants for pensions and separation allowances have no right of appeal.

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August 9th.—Mr. Forster informed the House, in reply to Mr. Snowden, that: "Arrangements have now been completed whereby all conscientious objectors, whose cases have not been reached by the central Tribunal during the currency of their sentences, are sent on furlough, with permission to wear plain clothes. . . . Men in detention are being sent direct on furlough from the detention barracks, and those in civil prisons are returned to their unit in order that they may be sent on furlough. They will not be instructed to rejoin their units unless their appeals are rejected by the Central Tribunal. If the Tribunal accepts their appeal they will be sent to do work of national importance under the civil authority," and if they fail to observe "these conditions" they will return to prison if still under sentence," or recalled to military service.

The Conscription Act gives power to grant absolute exemption, but this provision is ignored! Many men will refuse alternative service.

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The Prime Minister refused to publish the Papers relating to Lord Haldane's visit to Berlin in February, 1912, until after the War.

But what about Lord Haldane, who desires that the truth shall be known?

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The Prime Minister had to admit that Lord Wimborne made a bargain that he should have more power than he had before on returning to the Lord Lieutenancy of Ireland.

* * * *

Mr. Chancellor disclosed the fact that a memorial was being circulated amongst the women postal clerks in the west district asking for the "return without delay to London" of Mr. Hughes, the Australian Prime Minister. Mr. Pease replied that the circulation of the memorial "by an officer in a position of some authority was improper, and will be stopped." The rank and file might do as they pleased. He was assured that no pressure to sign had been put on the women.

It seems that Mr. Pease does not altogether dislike the memorial. Will he agree to the circulation of a memorial for Human Suffrage?

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Mr. L. Williams asked why two brothers, conscientious objectors, who worked at Llanelly Steel Works, were forced into the Army, although they worked in a starred trade and 150 soldier-workmen are being employed there?

Mr. Long knew nothing of the matter, but stated that if the brothers claimed exemption as conscienious objecors, the fact that they were in a starred trade would not count.

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Mr. Anderson stated the case of a woman munition worker of Plumstead, employed by Messrs. Greenwood and Batley, of Westminster, who, in order to prevent an explosion, had her thumb caught in the machinery and partly amputated. The Courts have decided that the firm—which is a controlled one—is not liable to pay compensation.

Dr. Addison promised to make inquiries.

* * * *

August 10th.—Mr. Ponsonby asked the reason of "the refusal of a passport to the Hon. Bertrand Russell to take up his duties as lecturer at Harvard University?" Lord Robert Cecil replied that his Majesty's Government did not think it would be "in the public interest" to issue a passport to enable Mr. Russell to leave the United Kingdom. Liberty!

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Mr. Snowden again referred to the dismissal of two women in a shell-filling factory in Middlesex for having accepted tea during working hours. Dr. Addison explained that this was not the reason; but that the women had refused to work in another part of the factory. He further explained that a Woman Welfare Supervisor had been appointed to see that the women did not suffer hardship for want of rest or refreshment. In short, Dr. Addison tried to explain the matter away, but without success.

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Dr. Addison announced that a certain number of the Clyde deportees would be allowed to return now, provided they accept the employment offered to them and promise to refer grievances to their Trade Unions.

These men can begin by complaining that they are not allowed to *choose* their employment.

* * * *

Mr. Forster explained that released soldiers receive full pay for industrial employment, whereas military working parties receive soldier's pay. Attempts are being made to explain this away, and to say that the working parties do not matter, but, of course, they do.

* * * *

Mr. Forster stated in reply to Mr. Snowden that the pamphlet Rex v. Russell was seized because it contained a reprint of the "mischievous pamphlet" which led to Mr. Russell's conviction. We learn, by the way, that *The Herald* office was raided for copies, but there were none there.

* * * *

On the Treasury Estimates, Sir Charles Henry condemned the Chancellor of the Exchequer for borrowing on short-dated securities, in order, as he thought, to evade the fulfilment of the pledge to investors in 1915 War Loan, that in the event of a subsequent loan at higher interest the interest on the 1915 loan should also be raised. Mr. McKenna defended his present practice, but foreshadowed another War Loan later on. Mr. McKenna said that our total indebtedness is £2,550,000,000, that the national income is £2,700,000,000 (it was £2,400,000,000 in 1913-14). The capital wealth of the nation is £15,000,000,000.

The moral of all this seems to be: first, that the War is too costly and should be stopped; secondly, that the cost of the War should not come out of poor people's necessities, but from the capital wealth now in the hands of a few.

* * * *

August 14th.— Mr. W. Thorne protested against the action of Mr. Harcourt in allowing the South Wales coalowners to increase the price of coal 2s. 6d. per ton at the pit-head. Mr. Snowden complained that gas companies are charged 4s. a ton above the standard.

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Mr. R. McNeill stated that the Government of British Columbia had made arrangements whereby soldiers can record their votes while in England or on active service at the front. Mr. Bonar Law remarked, in reply, that it had not been found possible to provide such facilities except in Great Britain. It would be interesting to know how British soldiers are going to vote at the front according to Mr. Asquith's new plan.

* * * *

Mr. Samuel Roberts made an effort to induce the Prime Minister to limit the number of questions addressed to Ministers. What is really wanted is that Ministers should give less evasive answers.

* * * *

Mr. Forster announced that he had made arrangements that military working parties in future shall be paid the current local rates for civilian labour. He forecasted the plan of deducting 3s. 6d. per day from the men's pay for food, lodging, clothing, &c.

This is a step in the right direction. But 3s. 6d. a day is a high estimate for necessities. The soldier's wife's separation allowance is 12s. 6d. a week!

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Sir E. Carson pointed out that records of soldiers had been burnt in the fire at the Linen Hall Barracks, Dublin, during the rebellion. This caused hardship to the soldiers. Mr. Forster stated that each man's account was being reconstructed as quickly as possible.

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Mr. Keating stated that the military authorities in Ireland had forbidden the holding of a meeting in County Donegal to be addressed by Messrs. Dillon, Devlin, and W. A. Redmond.

This sounds like the bad old times!

FRANCHISE AND REGISTRATION.

Mr. Asquith introduced a Bill to prolong the life of Parliament for eight months, and promised to introduce the Registration Bill next day to secure votes to all who were voters before the War. He said that the military authorities are opposed to the franchise being exercised by men at the front. Moreover, if soldiers and sailors were to be enfranchised, all munition workers must also vote, and he could not deny the women's claim.

Sir Edward Carson said that as it was a simple Registration Bill he was at a loss to know why it had been so long withheld. He thought the present an extremely inopportune time for an election, but eight months was too long to prolong Parliament. He urged that it would be as easy to enfranchise the soldiers as to trace the present electors. He did not consider that there was any comparison between a service franchise and votes for women.

Mr. Wardle said that he had hoped that the franchise question would have been settled on the lines of adult suffrage. Unless the parties would agree to that the only thing to do was to take the register on the old qualifications.

IRISH LABOURERS CONSCRIBED.

Mr. Hugh Law moved the adjournment of the House to debate the question of Irish Migratory Labourers whose homes are in Ireland, but who come to Great Britain year by year for a special purpose, and therefore do not come under the Military Service Act, indeed it was expressly promised that they should be excluded. During the past few weeks the recruiting officers in Scotland have had some of these men arrested as absentees under the Act. Mr. Law told of one man who was fined £2, detained three days in a police office at Glasgow, and had to lie on the flags at night. In Mossend alone more than fifty arrests have taken place. Mr. Tennant said that these "regrettable incidents" occurred through the "overactivity of some official." Mr. Forster, for the War Office, after much prevarication, said: "That if it can be shown that the men were improperly taken under the Military Service Act, they will be given an opportunity of obtaining their discharge, and that whether a man is ordinarily resident or *not* can only be decided by a Civil Court."

At the Conference of the National Union of Scottish Mineworkers, Mr. Robert Smillie spoke of the pledge given by the Prime Minister in the name of the Government that men returning from the Army to their places in industry should not be subject to military authority. This had been disregarded, and Mr. Smillie cited the case of a man who had returned from the Army to the mine, and was told that his place was in a certain pit, which he was not at liberty to leave, otherwise he would be dealt with by the military authority. Mr. Smillie blamed the private exploiters for the rise in the cost of living.

GOVERNMENT WHEAT

The following letter from the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries to the President of the London Corn Trade Association has been sent by the Association to its members:—

Dear Sir,—I am directed to refer to the Board's letter of the 24th May last, in which it was stated that the intention of the Government with regard to any wheat held by them after the 1st of October next should be announced to the Corn Trade Association on the 1st July. The subject has been again under consideration by the Cabinet Commission for Food Supplies, and I am to inform you that it is not intended to sell any wheat other than that held by millers—which will be disposed of under the agreement with them previously explained (1,160,000 qrs. to be sold at market prices during ten weeks in amounts of one-fifth)—except in so far as it may be necessary to sell certain quantities owing to loss of condition and risk of future keeping in store. If, however, in any months after the 1st October the quantity going out of condition and sold for that reason, should amount to less than 100,000 qrs., the Board reserve the option of selling up to that quantity. This undertaking will hold good for three months after the 1st October, and a further communication will be addressed to you on that date in regard to future action. I am to add that the present intention is to hold the present remainder of stock until after the declaration of peace, but if it is found necessary to alter this policy, not less than three months' notice should be given of such an alteration. I am further to add that the arrangements which were made for ensuring the supply of freights for the carriage of wheat and flour will be continued, but that the amount to be made available, will be reduced after the present date to such a quantity as is estimated to be sufficient to meet the requirements of shippers.—Your obedient servant, R. Henry Rew.

Why should the Government hold wheat until after the declaration of peace, unless this is done to enable the private traders to keep up the prices during the War? All wheat above 100,000 qrs. which may show signs that it will not bear keeping is to be sacrificed, it appears. Meanwhile our bread is to cost us more!

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The *Manchester Guardian*, referring to the proposal to institute "meatless" days, rightly says that the rich would buy meat in advance to eat on the days when meat could not be bought, and that the poor, who are already forced to go without, would be the only people inconvenienced. The *Manchester Guardian* says that there is no remedy but that of raising wages. That is a remedy, but pensions, separation allowances, and Poor Law scales would also need to be raised if the poor were to be protected in this way, and when that were done we fear that the prices would again rise. We believe that the most effective plan is to insist on the reduction of food prices and profits, and the Government control of the food supply. If it can be shown that there is a genuine scarcity of meat, the Government should resort to the meat ticket system in order that all may get an equal share, but we believe that the high prices are not caused by a genuine shortage.

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The National Union of Railwaymen is demanding an all-round advance of 10s. per week on account of the increased cost of living. The resolution runs: "That, inasmuch as the Government have taken no effective steps to control the prices of the necessaries of life, this committee, in uniformity with the instructions of the A.G.M., decide to make an application to all the railway companies in the United Kingdom for an increase of 10s. per week for the whole of our members."

WOMEN'S WORK ON THE LAND.

"A London J.P." wrote to the *Evening News* as follows:—

One of my daughters went to Evesham. She was told that the earnings varied from 15s. to £1 a week, and that the cost of living did not exceed 10s. Her outfit and expenses amounted to £4. The first week she earned 7s. 6d.—the second 11s. She lived, with others, in a barn, slept on straw, had to do her own cooking, and lived principally on bread and jam. Mice ran over the beds every night. Work began at five in the morning, and continued till six or seven at night. One day my daughter earned 2s. 6d. as the result of twelve hours work! At the end of three weeks the farmer politely told the girls there would be no more fruit to pick until September, and that they had better go home. One girl had spent £7 on outfit for the work; another had come from Ireland, paying her own fare, and another worked to assist her mother, thinking that she would be able to remit home at least 10s. a week. Warn your readers against this form of patriotism. It is simply filling the pockets of the farmers, who are getting their work done at sweated rates. Not a single girl earned enough even to keep herself in decent food.

* * * *

A large number of women from the village of Wombleton, in Yorkshire, have been engaged in the big fruit gardens of the district picking gooseberries and fruit. They started at Mr. Robert Carpenter's farm, but during the day struck work for an increase in wages. Another gang was found to start work for the old wages. Some trouble occurred, the women who took the place of the others being regarded as "blacklegs."

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The Times states that in the Lincolnshire Fens, where Irish harvestmen were usually employed, English labourers are refusing to work with them and farmers are declining to employ them. The reason given is that English soldiers are receiving the Government 1s. a day in Ireland whilst these Irish labourers get 5s. 6d. and 7s. per day in England. But the Irish do not want a garrison of 40,000 soldiers in Ireland. It seems farmers only want *cheap* labour, since they cry out for women and children to help them!

The Mathematical staff of Trinity College, Messrs. Hardy, Littlewood, and Chapman have protested against the dismissal of Mr. Bertrand Russell from his lectureship. It is interesting to remember that Edward Carpenter was also at one time a Fellow and Lecturer of Trinity, and that, finding its atmosphere intolerable, he was most glad to escape from it when he was dismissed for his lack of orthodoxy.

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The Belper Magistrates recently refused to make an order that Henry Smith, a conscientious objector, should be handed over to the military authorities, although his appeal had been dismissed by the Local and County Tribunals. The magistrates were of opinion that Smith, who is a member of the Society of Friends, had a bona fide conscientious objection. We congratulate the Belper magistrates on their humanity and common sense.

THE
WORKERS' SUFFRAGE FEDERATION

To secure Human Suffrage, namely, a Vote for every Woman and Man of full age, and to win Social and Economic Freedom for the People.

Entrance Fee ... ... 1d.
Minimum Subscription... 1d. a month

LONDON MEETINGS.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18th.
Poplar Women's Hall, 3.30 p.m., Mrs. Shlette, and others.
Ordnance Road, 7.30 p.m., Mrs. Drake, Miss Beamish.
St. Anne's Road, Harrow, 7 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier, Miss Lynch.
SATURDAY, AUGUST 19th.
Grundy Street, 11 a.m., Mrs. Drake, Miss Lynch.
Hague Street, 3 p.m., Miss Price.
SUNDAY, AUGUST 20th.
Osborn Street, 11.30 a.m., Miss Price.
"Whitehouse," 11.30 a.m., Mrs. Bouvier.
Edmonton Green, 11 a.m., Joint meeting with N.C.F., Miss Lynch, Mr. Ward.
Chandos Hall, 11 a.m., Conference.
Victoria Park, 3 p.m., Mrs. Davies, Mrs. Cressall.
MONDAY, AUGUST 21st.
"Whitehouse," 3 p.m., Miss Price.
"Peacock," 7.30 p.m., Mrs. Cressall.
Bow Women's Hall, 8 p.m., General Meeting.
TUESDAY, AUGUST 22nd.
Salmon Lane, 1 p.m., Miss Price.
Custom House, 5 p.m., Mrs. Drake, Miss Lynch.
Bow Women's Hall, 8 to 10 p.m., Reading Room.
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23rd.
53 St. Leonard's Street, 7.30 p.m., Miss Beamish.
Green Gate, 7.30 p.m., Mrs. Drake.
THURSDAY, AUGUST 24th.
"Abbey Arms," 7.30 p.m., Mrs. Cressall.
FRIDAY, AUGUST 25th.
Poplar Women's Hall, 3.30 p.m., Miss Lynch, Mrs. Shlette.
Ordnance Road, 7.30 p.m., Mrs. Drake, Miss Lynch.
SATURDAY, AUGUST 26th.
Custom House, 12 (noon), Miss Price.
Copenhagen Place, 11 a.m., Mrs. Bouvier.
SUNDAY, AUGUST 27th.
Hyde Park, 5 p.m., Mrs. Drake.

W.S.F. BRANCHES.

Bow, 400 Old Ford Road. Secretary, Miss Price.—DREADNOUGHT sales for week ending August 12th, 765. Miss O'Brien, 200; Miss Harriet, 150; Mrs. Holloway, 131; Mrs. Crabb, 61; Miss Mackay, 58; Mrs. Savoy, 36.

BROMLEY. DREADNOUGHT sales for two weeks, 137.

POPLAR, 20 Railway Street. Secretary, Miss Stephen.—DREADNOUGHT sales 162. Mrs. Shlette, 111; Mrs. Bertram, 8; Mrs. Neuss, 6; Mrs. Green, 6; Mrs. Rounce, 5; Chrisp Street Meeting, 26. Collections: Cubitt Town, per Misses P. Lynch and M. Carr, 11s. 4d.; Green's, Blackwall, per Misses Lagsding and F. Groves, 10s. 3d.; Chrisp Street, 1s.

DURHAM.

Mrs. Drake, who went to Durham district in place of Miss Pankhurst on August 10th, held most successful meetings at Prudhoe, Cornsay, Consett, High Spen, and Chopwell. The collections amounted to £4 8s. 8½d., and 399 DREADNOUGHTS were sold. The W.S.F. members and friends welcomed Mrs. Drake, who had very appreciative audiences; but hope to hear Miss Pankhurst again when she recovers.

YORKSHIRE.

Miss Stephen is making good progress in Bradford and Sheffield, where branches of the W.S.F. are being formed.

HEAT DANGER.

The hot weather comes as a welcome change to many people, but to the babies of East London its brings serious dangers. The infant death rate in the district immediately surrounding the Mothers' Arms is 152 per thousand, whilst the rates in Poplar and Bromley are also high. Children suffering from the hot weather plague—infantile diarrhœa—will be brought to us in a state of collapse during the next few weeks. They can all be treated in our nursery and clinics with good chance of recovery if friends will provide the necessary funds.

W.S.F. FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Conference at Chandos Hall, 21a Maiden Lane, Sunday, August 20th, 11 a.m.

London Section, General Members' Meeting, Monday, August 21st, 8 p.m., 400 Old Ford Road.

Conference, September 2nd, 3 p.m., at 400 Old Ford Road, E., on "The Industrial and Political Position of Women Now and After the War."

Bow Women's Hall first indoor meeting, September 10th, 7.30 p.m. Mr. Arthur Field will speak on "The Position of Women in Islam." Chair, Mrs. Bouvier.

Every Thursday in October and November At Homes will be held at Chandos Hall (21a Maiden Lane, W.C.), at 3.30 p.m.

Caxton Hall Exhibition, December 7th, 8th, and 9th, from 3 to 10 p.m. daily.

FOOD PRICES DEMONSTRATION

The London District Council of the National Union of Railwaymen is organising a procession and demonstration in Hyde Park on Sunday, August 27th, at 4 o'clock, to protest against the Government's inaction on the question of the rise in the cost of living. The Eastern contingent will start from Mile End Waste at 1.30 p.m., and the members of the East London Section of the W.S.F. are asked to join up there with their banners.

WE APPEAL TO OUR READERS TO SEND 1s. EACH TO THE DREADNOUGHT FUND THIS WEEK. *Our* DREADNOUGHT is a lifeboat. Won't *you* help to keep it afloat?

SECRETARIAL POST VACANT. Good shorthand essential.—Apply 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

ELECTRIC MACHINE BAKERY
91 BURDETT ROAD, MILE END
W. WOODS & SONS, *Family Bakers*

(SUFFRAGE—continued from Front Page.)

it could never have been effectual. The links of war-service are unbroken; women are part of our armies; and they have shown just the kind of ability which their critics denied to them, and which may fairly be held to constitute a good claim to political rights. The women's cause has been completely vindicated. They have won the badge of capable citizenship. It is for the State formally to satisfy the demand for the strengthening of democracy which most of us can now see must come as the result of woman suffrage.

The one argument for the Coalition which really appeals to the people is that it unites them. The argument has not the strength it once possessed. But it would be entirely defeated by an unfair and uncandid dealing with the women's claim.—H. W. MASSINGHAM.

SOUTHAMPTON CAMPAIGN

SOUTHAMPTON. Hon. Sec., Miss Helsby, La Plata, Manor Farm Road, Bittern Park.

Mrs. Leigh Rothwell has concluded a most successful campaign for the W.S.F. in Southampton and district. Except those addressed by Mrs. Drake some time ago, no open-air meetings had been held by any organisation in Southampton since War broke out.

At the first meeting at the Clock Tower Mrs. Rothwell was impressed by the friendliness of the people towards Human Suffrage and the Federation. She felt also that they are awaking to the knowledge that the men and women workers of the world must work together to secure control of the conditions under which they live and toil. The audience stood listening for an hour and a half, and many faithful adherents appeared at almost every one of the series of twenty open-air meetings.

Some people have suggested that during the War open-air meetings in Southampton would be rowdy, but that has not been the experience of W.S.F. speakers. East Street is said to be a "rough" neighbourhood, but Mrs. Rothwell was most kindly received there. Both men and women thoroughly appreciated her vivid and logical addresses, and some people said that they could listen to her all night.

The Saturday night crowds at the Clock Tower required rather firm and careful handling, because of the few noisy people who made their way up town from the docks with a tendency to cause trouble wherever they went, but Mrs. Rothwell kept such interrupters in order without much difficulty.

At the dinner-hour meetings at Thorneycroft's munition works Mrs. Rothwell had quite a royal time. The lads always carried the box she spoke from, which was kindly lent by the keeper of a neighbouring sweet shop, and the men and women workers were never tired of listening. The fact that these meetings were held within earshot of the firm's office gave them a certain racy flavour. Good open-air meetings were also held on the common, at Kingsland Square, the Town Quay, and Wrolston.

Mrs. Leigh Rothwell did excellent work in bringing the franchise situation before the Trade Unions of the district, and as a result, a large number wrote both to the Government and to their local Members of Parliament, urging the introduction of a measure to give a vote to every woman and man over 21.

Mrs. Leigh Rothwell worked actively amongst the women and girl workers, urging upon them both their need of political enfranchisement and industrial combination. A successful At Home was held for women munition workers at the offices of the General Labourers' Union. The laundry workers earning, some of them, only 7s. a week, were also approached.

Collections at Mrs. Leigh Rothwell's meetings and donations during her visit, realised £7 2s. 1d. A social was organised by the Southampton members. Refreshments and flowers were generously provided by Mrs. and Miss Anderson, Mrs. Bealing, Mrs. and Miss Helsby, Miss Kennedy, Mrs. Samuel, Mrs. Saunderson, and others. There was a profit of 25s. 6d. A garden party and jumble sale are to be held later.

Mrs. Leigh Rothwell's campaign has had a healthy, rousing effect upon Southampton, and excellent work has been done for Human Suffrage, for Industrial Solidarity, and for Peace.

WHERE WOMEN VOTE.

Women in Norway got the vote in 1907. Since then many good laws have been introduced, such as the Maternity Insurance of 1909, which ensures free medical help, child-bed money, and free midwife help for directly insured women and for the wives of insured men—the money amounts to 1s. a day for eight weeks, and is given to the mother directly. A law, passed in 1915, ensures to the mother of an illegitimate child £1 a month for three months before the birth of the child, 34s. for expenses at the birth, 16s. a month for the nine months after child birth—a minimum of £3 in all. The establishment of paternity is compulsory, every birth must be notified, and the mother is obliged to give the name of the father who is held responsible for the child which inherits his name and property.

Women are legally eligible for every office in the State except those of officers in the Army and Consuls, and the women officials receive the same salaries as the men.

AUSTRALIAN WOMEN & SOCIAL BETTERMENT.

The Women's Political Union of Australia is holding a Convention to consider ways and means for dealing with the social evil, at which it has been resolved:

"That boys and girls be protected to the age of 21 against the vicious and depraved."

"That equal pay for men and women be made law, starting with a minimum of 10s. a day at the age of 21."

"That work for unemployed women be provided by the Government."

"That cheap but attractive lodging houses for girls and women be established by the Government."

"That Citizen Schools for delinquent boys and girls on the enlightened principles of the George Junior Republics in America be established."

"That a Royal Commission, composed of men and women, be appointed to inquire into the causes and extent of the white slave traffic and commercialised vice."

"That women magistrates and women police be appointed to act with men in all offences dealing with sexual relationships."

Miss Vida Goldstein moved:

"That a seduced girl under 21 be given the rights of a legitimate wife, and if the man be already married, that he shall be prosecuted for bigamy."

It was decided that this resolution should be submitted to a special session for further discussion. The Conference also pledged itself—

"To oppose every form of militarism, which is founded on the degradation of womanhood."

This resolution was to have been moved by Miss Adela Pankhurst, but she was away speaking in New Zealand, where she has been having crowded peace meetings.

* * * *

On June 18th, at Amsterdam, there was a big suffrage demonstration, consisting of a procession and open-air meetings, attended by 18,000 people, demanding that Dutch women shall vote.

Donations to be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Dr. Tchaykovsky, Langham House, Harrow, or Hon. Financial Secretary, Miss N. L. Smyth, 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

All parcels to 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED.

GENERAL FUND.—Miss Kemp (monthly), 4s. COLLECTIONS: Glasgow, per Mrs. Boyce, £1 10s.; Hammersmith, per Miss Price, 4s. 9d.; Harrow, per Miss Lynch, 3s. 4d.; Poplar, 3s. 2d.; Woolwich, 3s.; Hackney, 2s. 2d.; East Ham, 1s. 2½d.

"DREADNOUGHT" FUND.—R. Pott, Esq., £5; Mrs. Payne, £3; Dr. Ella Scarlett Synge, £1 1s.; Mrs. Luscombe, 15s. 8d.; A. S. Coombes, Esq., 10s. 6d.; E. Lansbury, Esq., 10s.; Miss O. Hockin, 10s.; Mrs. E. M. Brett, 8s.; L. M. S., 5s.; Mrs. Harris, 5s.; Miss Alice Park, 1s. 8d.; Mrs. O'Connell, 1s.; "Teddy the Flower Seller," 1s.; Mrs. Hercbergova, 1s.

MILK AND DISTRESS.—W. K., £5; Mrs. Baillie Weaver (monthly), £2; Mrs. Boswell, £1; Per Mrs. Dickinson, £1; Miss G. L. Smyth, £1; Per Miss J. E. Weir, £1; Mrs. Butcher, 14s.; E. Cunliffe, Esq., 10s.; A. S. Coombes, Esq., 10s. 6d.; Dr. A. V. Johnson, 10s.; Per Miss M. Pitt Lewis, 10s.; Miss Raisin, 10s. (monthly); Misses Barrowman (monthly), 5s.; Mrs. Heywood Bright (weekly), 5s.; Miss M. Crabb (monthly), 3s. 6d.; Miss Feek, 2s. 6d.; D. Wilkie, Esq. (monthly), 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Fluit, 2s. 6d.; Miss Balchin, 1s. COLLECTIONS.—Children's collection, per Mrs. Amyatt Hull, £1 10s. 5d.; L.S.A. Tool Room, £1 2s. 5½d.; Bow Sale of Clothes, 19s. 1d.; Miss Marie Schaub, 8s. 6½d.; Mothers at Bromley Clinic, 6s. 4d.

CLOTHES, &c.—Mrs. Giles; Babies' Kit Society, Sydney, per Miss Newcomb; Miss Betty Scott.

EGGS.—Lady Margaret Sackville.

GROCERIES.—Hampstead National Food Fund.

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GENERAL FUND.—Miss Cheetham, 5s.; James Leakey, Esq., 5s.; Profit on Poplar Club, 3s.; Mr. Genge, 2s. 6d. COLLECTIONS: Meetings, per Miss Lynch, 7s. 6½d.; Osborn Street, 1s. 5d.; Chrisp Street, 1s. 4½d.

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